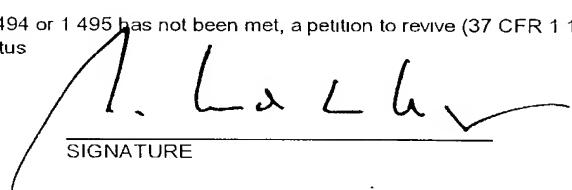
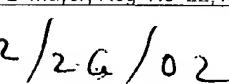


26 FEB 2002
10069899

FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 5/93)	U S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 38800/572
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U S APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/069899
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/EP00/04951	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE (31.05.00) 31 May 2000	PRIORITY DATES CLAIMED (27.08.99) 27 August 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A TREATMENT OUTCOME ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US KREBS, Stefan		
<p>Applicants herewith submit to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information</p> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) immediately rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (Unexecuted).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5))</p> <p>Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter</p> <p>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information An English translation of the International Search Report, an English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report, a Marked-up version of the Substitute Specification, one (1) sheet of drawings and first page of the published International Application WO 01/16419</p>		

EXPRESS MAIL NO. : EL327553641US

10/069899		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/EP00/04951	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 38800/572
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO		\$890.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)		\$710.00	
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2))		\$740.00	
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO		\$1,040.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4)		\$100.00	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =			
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))		\$	
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate
Total Claims	9 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00
Independent Claims	2 - 3 =	0	X \$84.00
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)		+ \$280.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =			
Reduction by ½ for filing by small entity, if applicable Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28)		\$	
SUBTOTAL =			
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later the <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f))		+ \$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =			
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) \$40.00 per property		+ \$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =			
		Amount to be refunded	\$
		charged	\$ 890.00
a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees is enclosed b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>11-0600</u> in the amount of <u>\$890.00</u> to cover the above fees A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No <u>11-0600</u> A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed			
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status			
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  SIGNATURE			
Kenyon & Kenyon One Broadway New York, New York 10004			
Richard L. Mayer, Reg. No. 22,490 NAME  DATE			

[38800/572]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Stefan KREBS
Serial No. : To Be Assigned
Filed : Herewith
For : METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A
TREATMENT OUTCOME ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN
Examiner : To Be Assigned
Art Unit : To Be Assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
37 C.F.R. § 1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT

SIR:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application before examination, as set forth below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), a Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without claims) accompanies this response. It is respectfully requested that the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) be entered to replace the Specification of record.

IN THE CLAIMS:

On the first page of the claims, first line, change "What is claimed is:" to --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 1 to 8 in the underlying PCT application.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 9. (New) A method of producing a treatment outcome sample on a textile specimen comprising:

providing the textile specimen in the form of a web along its full production width;

providing a leader on a first end of the specimen in a longitudinal direction of the web;

providing a trailer on a second end of the specimen; and

passing the textile specimen in a direction of feed through a production installation for treatment in a treatment bath.

10. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein a section of the web is nonabsorbent with respect to the treatment bath and the section forms the leader and the trailer.

11. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the web material is a plastic film.

12. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the length of the textile specimen is approximately three meters.

13. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the treatment medium is an applicator device having a low bath content.

14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the low bath content is in a range of approximately 5 to 15 liters.

15. (New) A textile specimen comprising:

a web having a full production width;

a leader attached in a longitudinal direction to a first end of the web; and
a trailer attached in a longitudinal direction to a second end of the web.

16. (New) The textile specimen according to claim 15, wherein the leader and the trailer are sections of web that are nonabsorbent with respect to a treatment bath.

17. (New) The textile specimen according to claim 16, wherein the sections of web that are nonabsorbent are made of a plastic film. -- .

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 8 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP00/04951 and adds new claims 9 to 17. The new claims, inter alia, conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add any new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without the claims) contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) are to conform the Specification and Abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules or to correct informalities. As required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)(3)(iii) and 1.125(b)(2), a Marked Up Version of the Substitute Specification comparing the Specification of record and the Substitute Specification also accompanies this Preliminary Amendment. Approval and entry of the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) is respectfully requested.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP00/04951 includes an International Search Report, dated November 28, 2000, a copy of which is included. The Search Report includes a list of documents that were considered by the Examiner in the underlying PCT application.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP00/04951 also includes an International Preliminary Examination Report, dated May 28, 2001. An English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report is included herewith.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 2/26/02

By:

A. L. Mayer
Richard L. Mayer
Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200

METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A TREATMENT OUTCOME ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of producing a sample of a treatment outcome on a textile specimen.

BACKGROUND OF THE RELATED ART

5 It is customary to demonstrate for clients of a textile finishing operation the outcome of a treatment on a textile specimen using a certain treatment bath on the basis of a laboratory specimen.

10 However, machines used in the laboratory are different from production machines. Thus, there can be substantial differences between an outcome obtained on a laboratory specimen and the ultimate production outcome. This is related to the fact that the treatment conditions on a laboratory dyeing machine, for example, which processes a web of a smaller width and only in laboratory dyeing apparatuses, are different from those in a production plant (see the technical book by M. Peter and H. K. Rouette "Grundlagen der
15 Textilveredelung" [Principles of Textile Finishing], 13th edition, German Fachverlag GmbH [German Technical Publishers] (1989), pages 494/495 and 826/827). The dyer or other textile expert will have certain options for approximating the desired result through modifications and conversion factors on the basis of experience. However, due to novel materials, especially viscose and modifications thereof, which also occur as admixtures in
20 cotton articles, and are critical in terms of dyeing results because the bath is absorbed so rapidly, after a laboratory sample has been submitted and accepted, there has been a decline in the rate of successes achieved in obtaining a desired dyeing in a first run on a production dyeing machine.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to improve the relevance of laboratory dyeings.

This object is achieved through the present invention as characterized by a method of producing a treatment outcome sample on a textile specimen. The method includes providing the textile specimen in the form of a web along its full production width; providing a leader on a first end of the specimen in a longitudinal direction of the web; providing a trailer on a second end of the specimen; and passing the textile specimen in a direction of feed through a production installation for treatment in a treatment bath.

10

The object of the present invention is not the provision of a leader or a trailer per se. These have been conventional in textile finishing for a long time (see Internationales Lexikon [International Lexicon] "Textilveredelung + Grenzgebiete" [Textile Finishing and Borderline Regions] by C. H. Fischer-Bobsien, 4th edition (1975), A. Laumannsche Verlagsbuchhandlung [A. Laumann Book Dealers], page 1959).

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Instead, the present invention relates to production of dyed samples under conditions equivalent to subsequent production dyeing on the production machine, so that there cannot be any deviations due to differences in equipment between the laboratory dyeing and the production dyeing. However, dyeing a production width of fabric must proceed at an economically justifiable cost. In a dyeing plant a certain minimum length of a web is necessary so that it can run through the production installation and be conveyed properly. However, it would be too expensive to produce this minimum length of the actual web material.

25

For this reason, the required minimum length is produced artificially by lengthening the actual web section—which represents the goods—at the front and rear ends with a leader and a trailer that have only the function of guiding the sample.

30

A web material that is not absorbent for the dye bath or treatment bath is preferably used for the leader and the trailer, and in particular a suitable plastic film, which is joined to the textile specimen by a suitable method such as sewing or gluing across the width of the web, is used. The textile specimen need only be relatively short, e.g., a few meters.

35

In one embodiment of the invention, an applicator device that has an especially low bath content is used for the treatment agent. "Especially low" is understood to refer to an

amount on the order of 5 to 15 liters in an applicator device for the conventional width of approximately two meters of textile web.

5 The low bath content makes it possible to adjust the quantity of bath to the needs of the relatively short section of a web which functions as the specimen, so that not only the demand for expensive web material but also the bath losses are minimized in production of the specimens.

10 An applicator device suitable for this purpose is described in German Patent 37 33 997 C3, which is wholly incorporated herein by reference.

15 The sample, which is lengthened by adding a leader and a trailer, has the same width as the production goods, and after approval of the sample, it is dyed in the production installation that produces the commercial yardage without any risk of deviations.

The leader and trailer may optionally be separated from the specimen again after dyeing and reused repeatedly.

20 Although dyeing is the most important example of a "treatment" in the sense of the present invention, the present invention is not limited to that case. There are also problems with obtaining realistic laboratory samples in the case of other sampling media which are not dye baths, and these problems can be overcome with the means according to the present invention.

25 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The figure is a schematic perspective view of the textile sample according to one embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

30 As shown in the figure, the sample 10 includes a web section 1 whose width B corresponds to a full production width. This is known to be on the order of about two meters in the case of a textile web.

35 Length D of web section 1 is just as long as needed for a suitable specimen, i.e., in the range of 5 meters or so. The cost of a sample is still justifiable at this length.

Web section 1 having a relatively short length L cannot be passed through a production dyeing installation because it is too short and cannot be gripped by the guide elements of the production dyeing installation, so a leader 6 and a trailer 7 are attached to ends 2, 3 of web section 1 located in direction 8 of travel along joining lines 4, 5 that run across direction 8 of travel and may be designed as sewn seams, adhesive sites, or any other similar means. In this way, the relatively short section 1 of the expensive web material is lengthened, so that the guide elements of the dyeing installation can grip it securely and it can pass through the dyeing installation. The sample may thus be passed through the same pad dyeing machine and the same subsequent steamer as well as the same washing installation as those used for the actual dyeing in the production width and length. This prevents the risk of deviations between the outcome of the sample and that of the production yardage.

ABSTRACT

5 A method of producing a sample of a treatment outcome on a textile specimen is described. The textile specimen in the form of a web section along its full production width is provided with a leader on one end located in the longitudinal direction of the web section, and a trailer at the other end. The specimen is passed through a treatment medium in a production installation for treatment in the direction of feed.

11 PRTS

10069888, 051702

JC19 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 FEB 2002

[38800/572]

METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A TREATMENT OUTCOME ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of [the type according to the definition of the species of Claim 1.] producing a of a treatment outcome sample on a textile specimen.

BACKGROUND OF THE RELATED ART

5 It is customary to demonstrate for [the client] clients of a textile finishing operation the outcome of a treatment on a textile specimen using a certain treatment bath on the basis of a laboratory specimen.

10 However, [the machine] machines used [as equipment in a] in the laboratory [is] are different from [a production machine, so even today there are still repeatedly] production machines. Thus, there can be substantial differences between an outcome obtained on a laboratory specimen and the ultimate production outcome. This is related to the fact that the treatment conditions on a laboratory dyeing machine, for example, which processes a web of a smaller width and only in laboratory dyeing apparatuses, are different from those in a 15 production plant (see the technical book by M. Peter and H. K. Rouette "Grundlagen der Textilveredelung" (Principles of Textile Finishing), 13th edition, German Fachverlag GmbH (German Technical Publishers) (1989), pages 494/495 and 826/827). [Actually the] The dyer or other textile expert will have certain options for approximating the desired result through modifications and conversion factors on the basis of [long years of] experience. [Due] 20 However, due to novel materials, especially viscose and modifications thereof, which also occur as admixtures in cotton articles, and are critical in terms of dyeing results because the bath is absorbed so rapidly, after a laboratory sample has been submitted and accepted, there has been a decline in the rate of successes achieved in obtaining a desired dyeing in a first run on a production dyeing machine [after a laboratory sample has been submitted and accepted.].

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to improve the relevance of laboratory dyeings.

This object is achieved through the present invention as characterized [in Claim 1.] by
 5 a method of producing a treatment outcome sample on a textile specimen. The method
includes providing the textile specimen in the form of a web along its full production width;
providing a leader on a first end of the specimen in a longitudinal direction of the web;
providing a trailer on a second end of the specimen; and passing the textile specimen in a
direction of feed through a production installation for treatment in a treatment bath.

10

The object of the present invention is not the provision of a leader or [the] a trailer per
 se. These have been conventional in textile finishing for a long time (see Internationales
 Lexikon (International Lexicon) "Textilveredelung + Grenzgebiete" (Textile Finishing and
 Borderline Regions) by C. H. Fischer-Bobsien, 4th edition (1975), A. Laumannsche
 15 Verlagsbuchhandlung (A. Laumann Book Dealers), page 1959).

15

Instead, the present invention relates to production of dyed samples under conditions
 equivalent to subsequent production dyeing on the production machine, so that there cannot
 be any deviations due to differences in equipment between the laboratory dyeing and the
 20 production dyeing. However, dyeing a production width of fabric must proceed at an
 economically justifiable cost. In a dyeing plant a certain minimum length of a web is
 necessary so that it can run through the production installation and be conveyed properly.
 However, it would be too expensive to produce this minimum length of the actual web
 material.

25

For this reason, the required minimum length is produced artificially by lengthening
 the actual web section—which represents the goods—at the front and rear ends with a leader
 and a trailer [which] that have only the function of guiding the sample.

30

A web material that is not absorbent for the dye bath or treatment bath is preferably
 used for the leader and the trailer[(Claim 2)], and in particular a suitable plastic film[(Claim
 3)], which is joined to the textile specimen by a suitable method such as sewing or gluing
 across the width of the web, is used. The textile specimen need only be relatively short, e.g., a
 few meters[(Claim 4).].

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[An important] In one embodiment of the [present invention is characterized in Claim 5, according to which] invention, an applicator device [having] that has an especially low bath content is used for the treatment agent. ["Especially]" "Especially low["]" is understood to refer to an amount on the order of 5 to 15 liters in an applicator device for the conventional width of approximately two meters of textile web.

The low bath content makes it possible to adjust the quantity of bath to the needs of the relatively short section of a web which functions as the specimen, so that not only the demand for expensive web material but also the bath losses are minimized in production of the specimens.

An applicator device suitable for this purpose is described in German Patent 37 33 997 C3, which is wholly incorporated herein by reference.

The sample, which is lengthened by adding a leader and a trailer, has the same width as the production goods, and after approval of the sample, it is dyed in the production installation [which] that produces the commercial yardage without any risk of deviations.

The leader and trailer may optionally be separated from the specimen again after dyeing and reused repeatedly.

[The present invention is also embodied in a textile sample according to Claims 5 through 7.]

Although dyeing is the most important example of a ["treatment"] "treatment" in the sense of the present invention, the present invention is not limited to that case. There are also problems with obtaining realistic laboratory samples in the case of other sampling media which are not dye baths, and these problems can be overcome with the means according to the present invention.

30 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The figure is [The drawing illustrates a textile sample according to the present invention in] a schematic perspective view of the textile sample according to one embodiment of the present invention.

35 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

As shown in the figure, the sample 10 includes a web section 1[.

The sample, labeled as 10 on the whole, includes a section 3 of a web] whose width B corresponds to [the] a full production width[, which may]. This is known to be on the order of about two meters in the case of a textile web.

5 Length [L] D of web section 1 is just as long as needed for a suitable specimen, i.e., [a few meters, e.g.,] in the range of 5 meters or so. The cost of a sample is still justifiable at this length.

10 Web section 1 having a relatively short length L cannot be passed through a production dyeing installation because it is too short and cannot be gripped by the guide elements of the production dyeing installation, so a leader 6 and a trailer 7 are attached to ends 2, 3 of web section 1 located in direction 8 of travel along joining lines 4, 5 [which] that run across direction 8 of travel and may be designed as sewn seams, adhesive sites, or 15 [something] any other similar means. In this way, the relatively short section 1 of the expensive web material is lengthened, so that the guide elements of the dyeing installation can grip it securely and it can pass through the dyeing installation. The sample may thus be passed through the same pad dyeing machine and the same subsequent steamer as well as the same washing installation as those used for the actual dyeing in the production width and length. This prevents the risk of deviations between the outcome of the sample and that of the production yardage.

[Abstract] ABSTRACT

A method of producing a sample [(10)] of a treatment outcome on a textile specimen is described. [A] The textile specimen in the form of a web section [(1)] along its full production width [(B)] is provided with a leader [(6)] on one end [(2)] located in the longitudinal direction of the web section[(1)], and a trailer at the other end[(3) it is provided with a trailer (7), and then it]. The specimen is passed through a treatment medium in a production installation for treatment in the direction of feed[(8)].

10/069899 [38800/572]

METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A TREATMENT OUTCOME
ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN

The present invention relates to a method of the type according to the definition of the species of Claim 1.

It is customary to demonstrate for the client of a textile finishing operation the outcome of a treatment on a textile specimen using a certain treatment bath on the basis of a laboratory specimen.

However, the machine used as equipment in a laboratory is different from a production machine, so even today there are still repeatedly differences between an outcome obtained on a laboratory specimen and the ultimate production outcome. This is related to the fact that the treatment conditions on a laboratory dyeing machine, for example, which processes a web of a smaller width and only in laboratory dyeing apparatuses, are different from those in a production plant (see the technical book by M. Peter and H. K. Rouette "Grundlagen der Textilveredelung" [Principles of Textile Finishing], 13th edition, German Fachverlag GmbH [German Technical Publishers] (1989), pages 494/495 and 826/827). Actually the dyer or other textile expert will have certain options for approximating the desired result through modifications and conversion factors on the basis of long years of experience. Due to novel materials, especially viscose and modifications thereof, which also occur as admixtures in cotton articles and are critical in terms of dyeing results because the bath is absorbed so rapidly, there has been a decline in the rate of successes achieved in obtaining a desired dyeing in a first run on a production dyeing machine after a laboratory sample has been submitted and accepted.

The object of the present invention is to improve the relevance of laboratory dyeings.

25

This object is achieved through the present invention as characterized in Claim 1.

The object of the present invention is not the leader or the trailer per se. These have been conventional in textile finishing for a long time (see Internationales Lexikon [International Lexicon] "Textilveredelung + Grenzgebiete" [Textile Finishing and Borderline Regions] by

C. H. Fischer-Bobsien, 4th edition (1975), A. Laumannsche Verlagsbuchhandlung [A. Laumann Book Dealers], page 1959). Instead, the present invention relates to production of dyed samples under conditions equivalent to subsequent production dyeing on the production machine, so that there cannot be any deviations due to differences in equipment between the 5 laboratory dyeing and the production dyeing. However, dyeing a production width of fabric must proceed at an economically justifiable cost. In a dyeing plant a certain minimum length of a web is necessary so that it can run through the production installation and be conveyed properly. However, it would be too expensive to produce this minimum length of the actual web material.

10

For this reason, the required minimum length is produced artificially by lengthening the actual web section which represents the goods at the front and rear ends with a leader and a trailer which have only the function of guiding the sample.

15

A web material that is not absorbent for the dye bath or treatment bath is preferably used for the leader and the trailer (Claim 2), and in particular a suitable plastic film (Claim 3), which is joined to the textile specimen by a suitable method such as sewing or gluing across the width of the web, is used. The textile specimen need only be relatively short, e.g., a few meters (Claim 4).

20

An important embodiment of the present invention is characterized in Claim 5, according to which an applicator device having an especially low bath content is used for the treatment agent. "Especially low" is understood to refer to an amount on the order of 5 to 15 liters in an applicator device for the conventional width of approximately two meters of textile web.

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The low bath content makes it possible to adjust the quantity of bath to the needs of the relatively short section of a web which functions as the specimen, so that not only the demand for expensive web material but also the bath losses are minimized in production of the specimens.

30

An applicator device suitable for this purpose is described in German Patent 37 33 997 C3.

35

The sample, which is lengthened by adding a leader and a trailer, has the same width as the production goods, and after approval of the sample, it is dyed in the production installation which produces the commercial yardage without any risk of deviations.

The leader and trailer may optionally be separated from the specimen again after dyeing and reused repeatedly.

The present invention is also embodied in a textile sample according to Claims 5 through 7.

5

Although dyeing is the most important example of a "treatment" in the sense of the present invention, the present invention is not limited to that case. There are also problems with obtaining realistic laboratory samples in the case of other sampling media which are not dye baths, and these problems can be overcome with the means according to the present

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invention.

The drawing illustrates a textile sample according to the present invention in a schematic perspective view.

15

The sample, labeled as 10 on the whole, includes a section 3 of a web whose width B corresponds to the full production width, which may be on the order of two meters in the case of a textile web.

20

Length L of web section 1 is just as long as needed for a suitable specimen, i.e., a few meters, e.g., 5 meters. The cost of a sample is still justifiable at this length.

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Web section 1 having a relatively short length L cannot be passed through a production dyeing installation because it is too short and cannot be gripped by the guide elements of the production dyeing installation, so a leader 6 and a trailer 7 are attached to ends 2, 3 of web section 1 located in direction 8 of travel along joining lines 4, 5 which run across direction 8 of travel and may be designed as sewn seams, adhesive sites, or something similar. In this way, the relatively short section 1 of the expensive web material is lengthened, so that the guide elements of the dyeing installation can grip it securely and it can pass through the dyeing installation. The sample may thus be passed through the same pad dyeing machine and the same subsequent steamer as well as the same washing installation as those used for the actual dyeing in the production width and length. This prevents the risk of deviations between the outcome of the sample and that of the production yardage.

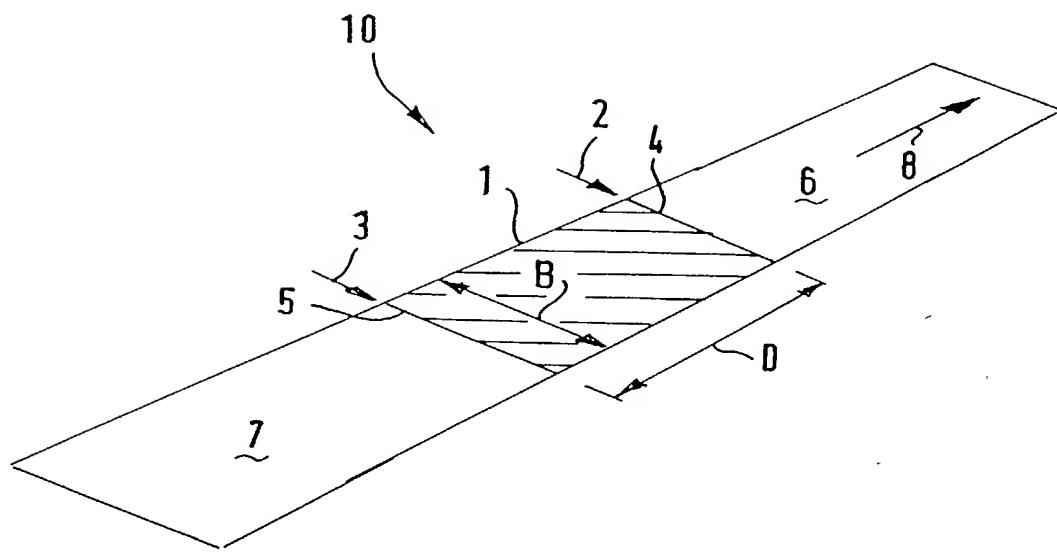
What is claimed is:

1. A method of producing a sample (10) of a treatment outcome on a textile specimen, wherein a textile specimen in the form of a web section (1) is provided along its full production width (B) with a leader (6) on one end (2) in the longitudinal direction of the web section (1), and on the other end (3) it is provided with a trailer (7) and then is passed through a production installation for treatment in the direction of feed.
2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein a section of web material which is nonabsorbent of the treatment bath is used as leader and trailer (6,7).
3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the web material is a plastic film.
4. The method according to one of Claims 1 through 3, wherein the length (L) of the textile specimen amounts to a few meters.
5. The method according to one of Claims 1 through 4, wherein an applicator device having an especially low bath content is used for the treatment medium.
6. A textile sample (10) in the form of a web section (1) in the full production width which is provided with a leader (6) at one end (2) in the longitudinal direction, and with a trailer (7) at the other end in the longitudinal direction.
7. The sample according to Claim 6, wherein the leader and the trailer (6, 7) are made of a section of web material that is not absorbent of the treatment bath.
8. The sample according to Claim 7, wherein the section of web material is made of a plastic film.

Abstract

A method of producing a sample (10) of a treatment outcome on a textile specimen is described. A textile specimen in the form of a web section (1) along its full production width (B) is provided with a leader (6) on one end (2) located in the longitudinal direction of the web section (1), and at the other end (3) it is provided with a trailer (7), and then it is passed through a production installation for treatment in the direction of feed (8).

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[38800/572]

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **METHOD OF PRODUCING A SAMPLE OF A TREATMENT OUTCOME ON A TEXTILE SPECIMEN**, the specification of which was filed as International Application No. PCT/EP00/04951, on 31 May 2000, an English translation of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

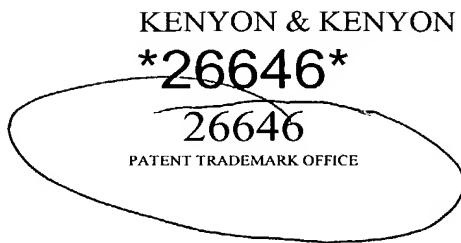
PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

(Number)	(Country)	(Day/month/year filed)	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119	
199 40 608.1	Fed. Rep. of Germany	27 August 1999	Yes <u>X</u>	No _____

And I hereby appoint Richard L. Mayer (Registration No. 22,490) and David I. Greenbaum (Registration No. 46,739) my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

1006 Q399 05/17/02
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Please address all communications regarding this application to:



Direct all telephone calls to Richard L. Mayer at (212) 425-7200.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor:

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